

Amendments to the Specification

ABSTRACT

[0038] (Currently amended) Integrated micro-valve is formed to control fluid flow and pressure. The valve converts supplied energy to mechanical energy through ~~an energy conversion means~~ a means for energy conversion resident above a flexible wall or membrane. In one embodiment a sealed cavity contains a fluid that expands and contracts as it is heated or cooled, thus causing the flexible wall to move. Movement of this wall or membrane is used to move a valve element and dynamically control the opening or closing of a valve port over a predetermined range. Additional ~~stiffening means~~ for stiffening are added to the membrane to improve performance.